

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 ICA-11 DOE-15 SOE-02
TRSE-00 COME-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
EB-08 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
AGRE-00 HA-05 HEW-04 /133 W
-----009676 211155Z /43

R 210821Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7470
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEAN, E
SUBJECT: US/ASEAN MINISTERIAL -- AGENDA

REF: (A) STATE 147474, (B) JAKARTA 7523

1. SUMMARY. MRS. MANALO HAS INFORMED US (SEE SEPTTEL)
THAT THE ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERIAL MEETING REQUESTED THE
GOP TO CONVEY TO THE USG THE PRIORITY AND IMPORTANCE
ASEAN ATTACHES TO THE SUBJECTS ENUMERATED BY THE ASEAN
ECONOMIC MINISTERS, AND THAT THE TASK OF ARRANGING THE
AGENDA ITEMS BE LEFT TO THE USG SO AS TO ALLOW SECRETARY
VANCE, SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL AND OTHER OFFICIALS TO PARTI-
CIPATE. HER DEPUTY JOE FERNANDEZ CLARIFIED THESE
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POINTS. END SUMMARY.

2. AGENDA SUBJECTS. THE SUBJECTS ENUMERATED BY THE
ECONOMIC MINISTERS WERE REPORTED IN PARAGRAPH 6 OF
JAKARTA 7523. FERNANDEZ PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING EXCERPT
FROM THE REPORT OF THE SIXTH ASEAN ECONOMIC MINISTERIAL.

QUOTE. FOR THE FORTHCOMING SECOND ASEAN-UNITED STATES
DIALOGUE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ON
3-4 AUGUST 1978, THE MEETING AGREED TO PROPOSE THE FOL-
LOWING SESSIONS:

- FIRST DAY (3 AUGUST) - NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES, PARTI-
CULARLY THE COMMODITY PROBLEMS; TRADE ISSUES INCLUDING
ACCESS TO MARKET GSP AND MTN;
- SECOND DAY (4 AUGUST) - INVESTMENT, INCLUDING TAX
DEFERRAL, OPIC AND SIMILAR ISSUES. DEVELOPMENT COOPERA-
TION, INCLUDING COOPERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY
RESOURCES AND REGIONAL, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE
PROGRAMMES. UNQUOTE.

3. ILLUSTRATIVE SCHEDULE. THE ECONOMIC MINISTERS ALSO
PROPOSED A LONGER LUNCHEON SESSION WITH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL
LEADERS AND SAID THAT THERE IS NO ASSURANCE THAT THE
MINISTERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK
AND LOS ANGELES. GOP UNDERSTANDS, HOWEVER, THAT
RAJARATNAM WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE ASIA SOCIETY.
ASEAN IS INTERESTED IN THE REASON BEHIND THE PROPOSED
VISIT IN LOS ANGELES. IF THE USG BELIEVES IT IS USEFUL
TO PUBLICIZE ASEAN IN THAT AREA OF THE UNITED STATES,
ASEAN WOULD CONSIDER SENDING THE NEW ASEAN SYG ALI
ABDULLAH ON A SPEAKING TOUR. (EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR MAY
WISH TO OFFER ITS OPINION OF ALI ABDULLAH AS A SPEAKER.)
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LAST SENTENCE IN PARA 6 OF JAKARTA 7523 REFERS TO AN
INTERNAL ASEAN POSTMORTEM ON THE US/ASEAN MEETING.

4. AUGUST 2. FERNANDEZ SAID THAT ASEAN WAS UNABLE TO
ADDRESS SUGGESTIONS FDR AUGUST 2 IN STATE 147474,
PARTICULARLY AS THE DELEGATION HAS NOT YET BEEN FORMED.
FERNANDEZ COULD NOT GIVE US ANY INFORMATION ON THE
POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF ASEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS IN THE
ASEAN DELEGATIONS.

5. ASEAN DINNER ON AUGUST 4 WILL BE HOSTED BY ASEAN
MINISTERS, NOT BY GENERAL ROMULO.

6. FERNANDEZ WAS PLEASED TO KNOW THAT MRS. MANALO'S
SUGGESTION THAT THE PRESIDENT MEET WITH ALL ASEAN DELE-
GATIONS IS BEING WORKED ON. SHE HAD STRESSED IMPORTANCE
OF INCLUDING ALL RPT ALL MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS AT
WHITE HOUSE EVENT.

7. REFUGEES. FERNANDEZ SAID THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS
DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO THE REFUGEE
PROBLEM, AND THE USG SHOULD EXPECT THAT ASEAN WILL STRESS

THE REFUGEE ITEM IN THE AUGUST MEETING.

8. COMMENT. IT WAS CLEAR THAT ASEAN DID NOT ADDRESS ITSELF TO THE ILLUSTRATIVE SCHEDULE OR THE SUGGESTED NON-OFFICIAL PROGRAM. BOTH THE ASEAN FOREIGN AND ECONOMIC MINISTERS SEEMED TO BE PREOCCUPIED WITH THE SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA ITEMS, ESPECIALLY THE SUBJECTS ENUMERATED BY THE LATTER. MRS. MANALO IS EXPECTED BACK IN MANILA ON JULY 2, AND SHE WILL BE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN "NEGOTIATE" WITH THE U.S. ON THE ILLUSTRATIVE SCHEDULE. MORE ON AGENDA IN SEPTTEL. END COMMENT. MURPHY

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